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HOUSE BILL NO. 50

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the House Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

on _____)

(Patron Prior to Substitute--Delegate Fariss)

A BILL to require the Department of Social Services to increase public awareness of and to establish a hotline to provide information about infant relinquishment laws and options in the Commonwealth.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. § 1. That the Department of Social Services (the Department) shall establish a toll-free 24-hour hotline to make information about the Commonwealth's safe haven laws that provide for relinquishment of an infant, infant relinquishment locations, and support and resources available for parents available to the public and shall make information about the hotline, including the toll-free number that may be used to contact the hotline, available in its website. The Department shall also undertake a campaign to increase public awareness of the Commonwealth's laws providing for relinquishment of an infant and the hotline established pursuant to this act.

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